

CLAIMS

1. Apparatus for displaying to a user a web portal for a web application, said web portal displaying a plurality of associated portlets, sharing information with each other, accessible by said user; the apparatus comprising:

a portal server for operating a web portal to provide access to said web application;

a portlet application for operating on said portal server, for managing a collection of associated portlets;

said portlet application including:

means to initiate portlets on requests of a user to access said web application;

means to manage a portlet application session object for said portlets; and,

a portlet application session object data store controlled by said portlet application session object for saving parameters from user requests for associating said portlets with said portlet application session object.

2. The apparatus of claim 1 including a portlet application communication client in said portlet application for communicating between said portlet application session object and said web application to convey user requests received from said associated portlets to said web application.

3. The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said portlet application assigns a common key to each portlet associated with a portlet application session object.

4. The apparatus of claim 1 including a user session information table adapted to connect to multiple web applications with said portlet application session object.

5. Apparatus for displaying to a user a web portal for a web application, said web portal displaying a plurality of associated

portlets, sharing information with each other, accessible by said user;
comprising:

5 a portal server operating a web portal to provide access to said web application;

a portlet application operating on said portal server, for managing a collection of associated portlets;

10 said portlet application including:

means to initiate portlets on requests of a user to access said web application;

15 means to manage a portlet application session object for said portlets; and,

20 a portlet application session object data store controlled by said portlet application session object for saving parameters from user requests for associating said portlets with said with said portlet application session object.

25 6. A method of sharing information between a plurality of associated portlets in a web portal comprising: granting access for each of said plurality of associated portlets to a portlet data store; permitting each of said plurality of associated portlets to write data to said portlet data store and to read stored data from said portlet data store.

30 7. The method of claim 6 wherein said associated portlets are managed by a portlet application adapted to operate on a data processing system; wherein said portlet data store comprises portlet application storage managed by a portlet application session object which controls reading and writing of data by said associated portlets in said data store permitting exchange of data among said associated portlets of said portlet
35 application.

8. Apparatus for sharing information between multiple associated portlets in a web portal comprising:

40 a portlet application for managing said multiple associated portlets; a portlet application data store; and

means for granting read/write access to said data store by said multiple associate portlets to enable said portlets to exchange data among each other.

5 9. A portlet server capable of operating on a portal server for hosting multiple associated portlets in a web portal comprising:

means for managing said multiple associated portlets;

10 means for managing a portlet application session object;

a portlet application data store managed by said portlet application session object for granting read/write access to said data store to said multiple associate portlets to enable said associated portlets to exchange data among each other.

15 10. A portlet application capable of operating on a portal server for hosting multiple associated portlets in a web portal accessible by a user, comprising:

20 portlet application means for managing said multiple associated portlets;

25 portlet application means for managing a portlet application session object for said user; and

portlet application means for granting said key to each associated portlet for controlling access to said portlet application object.

30 11. A portlet application capable of operating on a portal server for hosting multiple associated portlets in a web portal accessible by a user, comprising:

35 portlet application means for managing said multiple associated portlets;

portlet application means for creating and managing a portlet application session object for said user;

40 portlet application means for creating and managing a key for said user for said portlet application session object; and

portlet application means for granting said key to each associated portlet for controlling access to said portlet application object.

12. The portlet application of claim 11 wherein one portlet application is assigned to each user and one key is assigned respectively for each user to respective portlet application objects for each portlet application.

13. Apparatus for displaying to a user a web portal for a web application comprising:

a portal server for operating a web portal to provide access to said web application by a user;

a portlet application, for managing a collection of associated portlets, for operating on said portal server;

a portlet application session object for said user for said associated portlets;

a portlet application session object data store controlled by said portlet application session object;

a portlet application communication client linked to said portlet application data store for communicating between said associated portlets and said web application to convey user requests received from said associated portlets to said web application; and

said communication client having a request buffer for storing and synchronizing requests from said associated portlets to enable said communication client to generate synchronized to said web application.

14. Apparatus in accordance with claim 13 wherein said portlet application communication client is adapted to send information including requests over a network to a web application and receive information including responses to said requests from said web application.

15. Apparatus for displaying to a user a web portal for a web application comprising:

a portal server for operating a web portal to provide access to said web application by a user;

a portlet application, for managing a collection of associated portlets, for operating on said portal server;

5 a portlet application session object for said user for said associated portlets;

a portlet application session object data store controlled by said portlet application session object;

10 a portlet application communication client linked to said portlet application data store for communicating between said associated portlets and said web application to convey user requests received from said associated portlets to said web application; and

15 said communication client having a request buffer for storing and serializing requests from said associated portlets to enable said communication client to generate serialized to said web application.

16. Apparatus in accordance with claim 15 wherein said portlet application communication client is adapted to send information including requests over a network to a web application and receive information including responses to said requests from said web application.

17. Apparatus in accordance with claim 15 wherein said portlet application communication client is adapted to send information including requests over a network to a web application server and receive information including responses to said requests from said web application server.

18. An article comprising:

a computer readable signal bearing medium; and

computer program code means recorded on said medium adapted to
35 implement the apparatus of any of claims 1 to 5, 8 to 17.